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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/678,893	10/04/2000	ATSUSHI KAKIMOTO	35.C14845	7041

5514 7590 06/03/2004

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EXAMINER

JACOBS, LASHONDA T

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2157

DATE MAILED: 06/03/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/678,893

Applicant(s)

KAKIMOTO, ATSUSHI

Examiner

LaShonda T. Jacobs

Art Unit

2157

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 March 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

This is a Final Office Action in response to Applicant's amendment filed on March 9, 2004.

Claims 1-24 are presented for further examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims **1-24** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Goshey et al (hereinafter, "Goshey", 6473,783)

As per claims 1, 9 and 17, Goshey discloses an information processing apparatus for use in managing a network system provided with a plurality of information processing apparatuses to each of which connected is a shared device that can be used by another information processing apparatus through the network, said information apparatus comprising:

- management means for managing the information of a shared device present in the network system (col. 2, lines 41-65, col. 4, lines 39-57, col. 6, lines 57-67 and col. 7, lines 1-60);
- reception means for receiving the information of a shared device connected to another information processing apparatus (col. 2, lines 41-65, col. 10, lines 39-67 and col. 14, lines 15-47); and

Art Unit: 2157

- transmission means for transmitting the information of a shared device connected said information processing apparatus to another information processing apparatus on the network system (col. 2, lines 41-65, col. 10, lines 39-67 and col. 14, lines 15-47).
- renewal means for changing information on a status or connected condition of the shared device displayed on a display of said information processing apparatus in accordance with the information managed by said management means, based on the information received by said reception means (col. 8, lines 22-43, line 67 and col. 9, lines 1-14; Goshey discloses a server that sends messages to a client to let them know if the shared the device is already in use or busy. Therefore, Goshey discloses changing information on a status or connected condition of the shared device displayed on a display of said information processing apparatus in accordance with the information managed by said management means, based on the information received by said reception means).

As per claims 2, 10 and 18, Goshey discloses

- wherein said reception means includes first reception control means for designating a group satisfying a predetermined condition and receiving the information of the shared device included in said group (col. 2, lines 41-65 and col. 10, lines 39-67).

As per claims 3, 11 and 19, Goshey discloses:

- wherein said reception means includes second reception control means for detecting log-on of another information processing apparatus to the network system and receiving the information of the shared device of the other information processing apparatus (col. 11, lines 66-67 and col. 12, lines 1-62).

Art Unit: 2157

As per claims 4, 12 and 20, Goshey discloses:

- wherein said reception means is adapted, at the log-on to the network system, to automatically receive the information of the shared device present in the network system (col. 11, lines 66-67 and col. 12, lines 1-62).

As per claims 5, 13 and 21, Goshey discloses:

- wherein said transmission means is adapted, in response to the detection of a change in the status of a shared device connected to the own apparatus, to transmit information on the status after the change (col. 2, lines 41-65, col. 10, lines 39-67 and col. 14, lines 15-47).

As per claims 6, 14 and 22, Goshey discloses:

- wherein said transmission means is adapted, at the log-on to the network system, to automatically transmit -the information of the shared device connected to said information processing apparatus (col. 11, lines 66-67 and col. 12, lines 1-62).

As per claims 7, 15 and 23, Goshey discloses:

- wherein said renewal means is adapted, in response to the detection of log-off of another information processing apparatus from the network system, to invalidate the information of the shared device of the other information processing apparatus in said management means (col. 8, lines 22-43, line 67, col. 9, lines 1-14, col. 10, lines 32-50 and lines 57-67).

As per claims 8, 16 and 24, Goshey discloses:

- wherein said transmission means is adapted, in informing the other information processing apparatus of the shared device connected to said information processing

apparatus, selectively to execute a first method for transmission to a predetermined management apparatus on the network system or a second method for transmission to the other information processing apparatus through said network system (col. 2, lines 41-65, col. 10, lines 39-67 and col. 14, lines 15-47).

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-24 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

4. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Art Unit: 2157

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LaShonda T. Jacobs whose telephone number is 703-305-7494.


The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ario Etienne can be reached on 703-308-7562. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

LaShonda T. Jacobs
Examiner
Art Unit 2157

ltj
October 30, 2003


ARIO ETIENNE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100